

# Rotary *O-Pinion*

## CREATE HOPE IN THE WORLD

Meeting each Monday 12:00 p.m. – Owatonna Country Club  
Four-Way Test 1) Is it the truth? 2) Is it fair to all concerned?

3) Will it build good will and better friendships? 4) Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

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### OFFICERS

**GLEN MEGER:** Past President

**ANN MILLER:** President

**TOM PARTRIDGE;** President-Elect

**LOIS NELSON:** Secretary

**Brad Vettrus:** Treasurer

**ANNIE HARMAN:** President Nominee

**PATRICIA MCCLEESE, ROCHESTER;** District Governor

**RYAN GILLESPIE,,** Assistant Governor

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**FACEBOOK PAGE:** [www.facebook.com/RotaryClubofOwatonna](http://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubofOwatonna)

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dick Slieter

Ann Miller

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Ryan Gillespie

Brad Vettrus

Tom Dufresne

Kellen Hinrichsen

Jim Brunner

Mike Jensen

Glen Meger

John Connor

Annie Harman

**THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF ROTARY IS TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY INITIATIVES THAT INCLUDE LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES SO THAT MEMBERS WILL ENGAGE IN SERVICE ACTIVITIES THAT PROMOTE YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITY AND AROUND THE WORLD.**

### PROGRAMS

Feb. 26: Business meeting

March 4: Chamber of Commerce

March 11: Amy Eppen: Ann Bancroft Foundation

March 18: Jennifer Tonko: Exec. Dir, Clean River Partners

March 25: Business meeting

April 1: Lisa Kern, Benedictine

April 8: State of the City: Mayor Kuntz and City Manager, Kris Busse

April 15: Jena Tuma, Parks and Recreation Director

April 22: Beth Hortop, Executive Director, Exchange Club Center for Family Unity

April 29: Business meeting

May 6: Ron Cox : Midwest Workforce Strategies: Research on workforce shortages in the Midwest

May 13: Presentation by In-Bound Exchange Student, Casper

## **ROTARY O'PINION**

Monday, March 11, 2024

Editor: Todd Hale

**THIS WEEK:** Welcome to Amy Eppen from the Ann Bancroft Foundation

**BIRTHDAYS:** None

**MARCH STUDENT ROTARIANS:** Laken Meier, Anah Packard, Samantha Bogen and Elizabeth Randall

**IN-BOUND EXCHANGE STUDENT:** Casper, Finland

### **NOTES FOR ROTARIANS**

**Every ROTARIAN Every Year:** Your gift to the ROTARY FOUNDATION can provide clean water, sanitation, and hygiene education, which are basic necessities for a healthy environment and a productive life. Your donation to the ROTARY FOUNDATION'S annual fund provides these essentials in communities close to home and around the world. Make checks out to the ROTARY FOUNDATION and get them to ROTARIAN Dick Slieter.

The 2029 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL convention will be held in Minneapolis.

Did you know? The Homestead Hospice House is now closed. However, the Owatonna Foundation, over the years, gave a total of \$278,523 to the Hospice House, including a \$250,000 grant in 2001 for the Homestead House build.

ROTARIANS are invited to participate in the city's Hanging flower basket program. Flowers that appear in the downtown area are entirely funded through individual and business donations. Cost of each basket is approximately \$125.00. If you wish to help, send a check to the Chamber of Commerce and label it "Flower Basket Program".

Next Sunday is St. Patrick's Day. The Irish never hesitate to come to the aid of their fellow man...in this case, air passengers. Shortly after take-off on an outbound evening Aer Lingus flight from Dublin to Boston, the lead flight attendant nervously made the following painful announcement in her lovely Irish brogue. "Ladies and gentlemen, I'm so very sorry, but it appears that there has been a terrible mix-up by our catering service. We have 103 passengers on board and unfortunately, we received only 40 dinner meals. I truly apologize for this mistake". When the muttering of passengers had died down, she continued, "Anyone who is kind enough to give up their meal so that someone else can eat, will receive free and unlimited drinks for the duration of our ten-hour flight." Two hours later another announcement: "If anyone is hungry, we still have 40 dinners available."